



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2005

Contact: Clay Clifton 858-495-5579

GENERAL ADVISORY FOR NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY COASTAL WATERS ***RAIN BRINGS URBAN RUNOFF TO NORTH COUNTY BEACHES***

The Department of Environmental Health has issued a General Advisory for the coastal waters of north San Diego County due to recent rainfall. Swimmers, surfers, and other ocean users are warned that the levels of bacteria can rise significantly in ocean and bay waters, especially near storm drains, creeks, rivers, and lagoon outlets that discharge urban runoff. Urban runoff may contain large amounts of bacteria from a variety of sources such as animal waste, soil, and decomposing vegetation. While many coastal storm drains within San Diego County are permanently posted with white metal warning signs, additional temporary warning signs are not posted for General Advisories.

Activities such as swimming, surfing and diving should be avoided in north county coastal waters for 72 hours following rain. This includes beaches from San Onofre State Beach south to Del Mar. Elevated bacteria levels can persist after a rainstorm depending upon the intensity of the storm, volume of runoff and ocean and current conditions.

For updates on beach closure information please call the 24-hr. hotline at (619) 338-2073.

OR www.cleanup.org enter your zip code and select Beach Water Quality

##